GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1158
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2005
CAFFEINE IN SOFT DRINKS
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards has lately been considering the proposal to lower the caffeine level in soft drinks;

(b) if so, the present level of caffeine presence permitted in different standard soft drinks alongwith the level of caffeine presence safe for human consumption; and

(c) by when the decision is likely to be taken in the matter and the steps taken to implement the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) : The maximum permitted limit of caffeine in the existing Indian Standard and Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules for soft drinks is 200 ppm. The Non Governmental Organizations / consumer groups have proposed fixing the maximum limit of caffeine in the soft drinks as 145 ppm in the interest of public health based on the caffeine limits in the carbonated beverages permitted in various other countries.

(c) : As the Ministry of Health & Family welfare is the regulatory authority for food items as per the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules framed thereunder, final decision regarding implementation of the revised caffeine limit in the soft drinks will be taken by them.